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B O R O U G H   O F   M O N T G O M E R Y .

ANNUAL REPORT OF the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1952.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1952.

ESTIMATED POPULATION                      834

BIRTHS                      There were thirteen births during the year. Six Males and Seven Females. Two of these were illegitimate. The Birth Rate per 1000 was 15.6 and the corrected Birth Rate was 18.6. The Rate for England and Wales was 15.3 per 1000 population.

DEATHS                      There were eleven deaths during the year. Seven Males and Four Females, giving a Death Rate of 13.2 per 1000 of population. The adjusted Death Rate was 10 per 1000. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.3 for 1952.

<u>AGES AT DEATH</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
	58	70
	93	90
	83	71
	47	85
	85	

There were two deaths in children one premature infant under four weeks and one under one year.

CAUSES OF DEATH                      There were four deaths from vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, three from Heart disease and one from Malignant Tumour of the lung.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Acute Lobar Pneumonia	1
Whooping Cough	3

TUBERCULOSIS                      Three cases of Tuberculosis occurred during the year one Pulmonary and two surgical. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION                      This is carried out by the County Council at the School Clinics.

CLINICS                      No Clinics are held in the Borough. Orthopedic Clinics and Tuberculosis Clinics are held regularly at Newtown and Welshpool. Consultants from Shrewsbury and Wrexham attend at the Welshpool and Newtown Hospitals for all other Clinics.

AMBULANCE SERVICE                      The Ambulance and sitting car Service is a Voluntary Service. It is very efficiently run and is a great boon to the community.

WATER                      Again, during the summer of 1952, the quantity of water yielded by the Powis and Corfield Springs was negligible, and practically all the water needed for all purposes in the Town had to be pumped from the Boreholes at Rhievgoch. An ample supply was available. All water is chlorinated. Samples taken for Bacteriological Examination proved that the quality of the water was "Highly Satisfactory". During the year four more houses were connected to the Town Supply. HENDOMEN- The work of extending the water main to the Hamlet of Hendomen was completed, and twenty houses were provided with a piped supply. In addition, the water needs of agriculture for that area were met. Owing to the increased quantities of water now being pumped, arrangements have been made for the erection of a second small pump and engine house, and the installation of a stand-by engine and pump.



SCHOOL - Work is now in progress on the reconstruction of the School, and a proper water supply will be available. Conversion will be made from the conservancy system to water carriage.

NEW HOUSES - No new houses were built by private enterprise during the year,

PROPOSED COUNCIL HOUSES - Although every effort has been made by the Council to erect new houses, which are badly needed, every attempt has resulted in nothing but frustration. In the first instance, it was proposed to build twelve traditional type houses, but a satisfactory price could not be negotiated. The next effort was for the erection of twenty four "Unity Type" houses, and again negotiations broke down. A further effort is now being made, in the hope that houses will eventually be built.

These set-backs are most disappointing and disheartening to the Council.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE - Very little progress has been made regarding the provision of a badly needed sewage disposal plant for the Town. At present crude sewage is being discharged into two open ditches. Dry and wet weather gaugings have been made at both sewer outfalls, and a scheme for the provision of a disposal plant is in course of preparation. I would strongly urge the Council to press forward with this matter.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION - During the year, four more conversions were made from conservancy to water carriage, and arrangements have been made for the provision of out-door sanitary accommodation at one Hotel.

PUBLIC CLEANSING - No Public Cleansing or disinfections were necessary during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD - The County Agricultural Executive Committee, on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, supervise methods of Milk Production, and inspect Farm premises concerned with this. So far as distribution is concerned, there are no complaints.

MEAT INSPECTION - The slaughtering of animals for human consumption is still centralised, and for this area, is carried out at Newtown, under Government arrangements. Shops and Vans are kept under supervision, and conditions during the year were satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES - The two bakehouses in the area are regularly inspected, and conditions are satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA - The District has been regularly inspected, and any defects found, were remedied.

SCHOOLS - As mentioned under the heading "WATER", the only School in the area is being reconstructed, in order to bring it up to standard.

DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC REFUSE - Tipping of domestic refuse is carried out on a site about one mile from the Town, and conditions are satisfactory. It is regularly visited by the Rodent Operator.

MONTGOMERY.

I am Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

S. J. STEWART.

